

# Info Usurpa

::: Weekly information bulletin of events in radical spaces in Winnipeg

#75 - week of August 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 :::

	wednesday.8	thursday.9	friday.10	saturday.11	sunday.12	monday.13	tuesday.14
EMMA GOLDMAN GRASSRTS CTR 91 Albert, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor		2-6pm <u>Junto library</u> open					
MONDRAGON 91 Albert Street Main floor							8pm <u>New Usurpa</u> bulletin available
RUDOLF ROCKER CULTURAL CTR 91 Albert, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor						7pm <u>Anarchist Environmentalisms</u> Free School Class	
THE BIKE DUMP 631 Main st., access on south side of bldg	7:30pm <u>Volunteer Night</u>	5-9pm <u>Open Hours</u> Get help fixing your bike or building one			12-5pm <u>Open Hours</u>	6-9pm <u>Women &amp; Trans Night</u>	
<b>FOOD NOT BOMBS</b> cooks and serves free recuperated food every Thurs. Show up at 4pm at the MERC (430 Langside street) to help out							

## ::: News :::

### UN Arrested 40 Ahead of Harper's Haiti Visit

*The Dominion* — Forty Haitian demonstrators were arrested by UN soldiers hours before the arrival of Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in the Haitian slum neighbourhood of Cite Soleil on July 20. Haiti was the last stop for the Prime Minister's Latin American tour, which also included stops in Colombia, Chile, and Barbados. The protest had been organized by residents of Cite Soleil in response to the visit of the Canadian Prime Minister, according to Lovinsky Pierre-Antoine, a protest organizer and director of the Haiti-based September 30th Foundation. Several sources report that the UN mission for stabilization in Haiti (MINUSTAH) has committed numerous documented human rights abuses within the seaside neighbourhood. According to reports by Democracy Now! And the Haiti Information Project, UN forces conducted a raid in Cite Soleil on December 22, ostensibly aimed at rooting out "armed gangs," which resulted in the deaths of at least 30 civilians, including several children. As survivors of this raid lay bleeding in the streets, UN soldiers prevented Red Cross ambulances from reaching the dead and wounded. Cite Soleil has been a centre of political support for the Fanmi Lavalas political party of deposed president Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The July 20 protest was organized to oppose Canada's involvement in the February 29, 2004 coup d'état of elected President Aristide, as well as Canada's continued interference in Haitian politics.

### Downtown Eastside Women Ask Politicians for Housing Swap

*The Dominion* — Shelters, transition houses and safe houses in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) turn away about 200 people each night, leaving many on the streets without access to basic amenities.

A press conference held on July 4 by Power of Women (POW) at the DTES Women's Centre revealed a group of women who have experienced -- and continue to experience -- poverty first-hand in a myriad of unsettling circumstances. Some young, some old, and all looking a little weary, the women who assembled to share their stories and their demands were exasperated, but not lacking in focus or energy. They seemed to relish the opportunity to speak out and possibly be heard by as many people as watch the evening news. The room was charged with a feeling of legitimacy that can only come from the recounting of lived struggle. They took turns speaking and acknowledging one another. Some had a lot to say, and said it loud, while others were only there to share a few succinct words. The press conference came days after the group presented an open letter to Mayor Sam Sullivan and City Council. The letter challenges the 11-member council to swap homes with POW members for eight weeks. The demand was spurred by the upcoming 2010 Olympic Games; the number of homeless in Vancouver doubled in 2005 to approximately 2174 and is predicted to triple due to the Olympics. These figures do not account for a much larger population that pays for sub-standard housing in Vancouver's DTES; their situations rendered increasingly more precarious by rising housing prices and urban development, the impoverished are finding that there are fewer and fewer places to go.